LAKEWOOD- Congresswoman Linda Sánchez would like to recognize her District staff member, Patrick Rodriguez of Long Beach, who has been called up to active duty in Iraq as a member of the U.S. Army Reserve 35th Military History Detachment from Bell, California. He will report to duty on August 19 in Ft. Bliss, Texas, before leaving for Iraq in mid-October.

"We will miss Patrick a lot. I think his deployment exemplifies the impact of this war in communities and businesses all across America. Democrat, Republican or Independent, soldiers and their families all over the United States are being affected. I wish him and all our servicemen and women overseas Godspeed and pray for their safe return home," said Congresswoman Sanchez.

Rodriguez' service with Congresswoman Sánchez began in the early days of her campaign in 2002. He is the Congresswoman's longest serving staff member. Patrick is no stranger to danger being previously deployed to Kosovo from April until November 2002. Born and raised in Texas he worked for the Texas Legislature and the Texas Chamber of Commerce before moving to Long Beach to work for the Congresswoman. Patrick has one son Johnny, and he and his wife Brenn are expecting a baby in 3 months.

"Patrick has been with my staff since the very beginning. We will certainly miss him, but I am proud of his dedication to our country and am sure that we will do a wonderful job in Iraq. Patrick is a committed civil servant, serving his country at every level," concluded Sánchez.